

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 6, 2004. Claims 11-20 are now presented for examination. Claims 1-10 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 13 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claim 11 is the only independent claim. Favorable review is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to as failing to show every feature specified in the claims. The Examiner stated that the vacuum wall, recited in the last paragraph of claim 11, was not shown in the drawings. The applicants wish to respectfully point out that the vacuum wall is shown in Figure 4, with portions of the wall labeled 210 and 215. In discussing the features shown in Figure 4, paragraph [0041] of the specification states that "actuator 300 passes through the vacuum wall, sealing against the vacuum with a flange 320 and sealant 310." The flange is shown in Figure 4 as sealed against wall portions 210 and 215. Figure 4 also shows that wall portions 210 and 215 (with flange 320) separate vacuum from atmosphere.

In order to further clarify that Figure 4 shows the vacuum wall, an amendment to paragraph [0041] is proposed, explicitly stating that 210 and 215 are part of the vacuum wall enclosing a vacuum vessel. Since this paragraph already mentions the vacuum wall, and since Figure 4 shows two regions labeled "atmosphere" and "vacuum" with wall portions 210 and 215 separating those regions, no new matter is being added. Entry of this amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 13 was objected to because of informalities. This claim has been amended as kindly suggested by the Examiner.

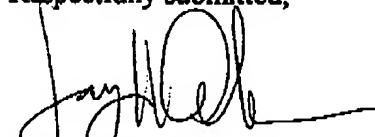
Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Prescott (U.S. Pat. No. 2,712,769). Claims 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Prescott in view of Oguma (U.S. Pat. No. 6,419,536). Claims 1-10 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection of those claims moot.

The applicants wish to express their appreciation for the Examiner's statement that claims 11-20 recited allowable subject matter. Claims 11-20 are all of the claims remaining in the application. Accordingly, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

The applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (845) 894-3667. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay H. Anderson
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 38,371

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION
Intellectual Property Law Department
B/300-482
2070 Route 52
Hopewell Junction, New York 12533
Facsimile: (845) 892-6363

FIS9-2003-0065-US1

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Appln. No. 10/604,078